

Joint Committee on Corrections

Information for Legislative Institutional Visits

Facility Name:	Western Missouri Correctional Center, December 2013			
Custody Level	C-2/Medium		Warden	Ronda J. Pash
Total Acreage	385		Address	609 East Pence Road Cameron MO 64429
Acreage w/in Perimeter	54			
Square Footage	96 (cell)		Telephone:	816 632-1390
Year Opened	1988		Fax:	816 632-2562
Operational Capacity/Count (as of December 20, 2013)	1958/1956			
General Population Beds (capacity and count as of December 20, 2013)	1758/1758		Deputy Warden	Lori Lakey, Operations
Segregation Beds (capacity and count as of December 20, 2013)	198/186		Deputy Warden	Krista Helton, Offender Management
Treatment Beds (capacity and count as of December 20, 2013)	N/A		Asst. Warden	Todd Warren (transferring to CRCC 1/6/14)
Work Cadre Beds (capacity and count as of December 20, 2013)	200/30		Asst. Warden	
Diagnostic Beds (capacity and count as of December 20, 2013)	N/A		Major	CSII Marvin Gregg (retiring 1/31/14)
Protective Custody Beds (capacity and count as of December 20, 2013)	N/A			

1. Capital Improvement Needs:

- a. How would you rate the overall condition of the physical plant of the institution?
Average for the age of the institution.
- b. What capital improvement projects do you foresee at this facility over the next six years?
Perimeter fence alarms (scheduled for 2014); resurfacing perimeter roads and parking lots;
housing unit cell windows; high mast lighting; Administration Building sky lights;
Administration Building chiller; energy efficient windows throughout; repair and/or replace
sidewalks
- c. How critical do you believe those projects are to the long-term sustainability of this facility?
Perimeter fence alarm system – 1
Resurfacing roads and parking lots (parking lots are in terrible shape – need to be completely
resurfaced) – 1
Housing unit cell windows – leak air badly and we have been putting plastic over the inside
of the windows during winter months for the last 10 years. They are rusted out and need
replaced – 2
High mast lighting on perimeter fence/energy efficient – 4

Administration Building skylights – repair or removed – 4
Administration Building chiller – 3
Energy efficient windows throughout the institution – 5
Repair and/or replace sidewalks – 6

2. Staffing:

- a. Do you have any critical staff shortages? Cooks and Recreation Officers
- b. What is your average vacancy rate for all staff and for custody staff only? The vacancy rate for all staff is 1.8% and for custody staff it is 2.0%.
- c. Does staff accrual or usage of comp-time by staff effect your management of the institution? Yes during Holidays. Supervisors work with staff to schedule this time off.
- d. What is the process for assigning overtime to staff? We have both a voluntary and mandatory overtime procedure in place.
- e. Approximately what percentage of the comp-time accrued at this institution does staff utilize as time off and what percentage is paid-off? 43% time off; 57% paid.
- f. Is staff able to utilize accrued comp-time when they choose? Yes

3. Education Services:

- a. How many (and %) of inmate students at this institution are currently enrolled in school? We currently have 491 students enrolled which is about 25% of the total population.
- b. How many (and %) of inmate students earn their GED each year in this institution? We had 70 graduates this year which is approximately 15% of those that are enrolled in school and approximately 4% of the total population. This is about what we average. The number is down this year as a result of some policy changes and a new test being developed.
- c. What are some of the problems faced by offenders who enroll in education programs? There is limited access to needed materials; the process to take the test takes a while; there are specific guidelines that the Education Department must meet before students get to test; There is a time lag for students to take the GED test after they have qualified; there must be a minimum number of students qualified in order to schedule testing; results (scores) take time to be returned to the institution, thus there is a time lag to fill seats.

4. Substance Abuse Services: N/A

- a. What substance abuse treatment or education programs does this institution have?
- b. How many beds are allocated to those programs?
- c. How many offenders do those programs serve each year?
- d. What percent of offenders successfully complete those programs?
- e. What, in you opinion, is the biggest challenge to running a treatment program in a prison setting?

5. Vocational Programs:

- a. What types of vocational education programs are offered at this institution? WMCC has nine vocational education classes. They are: Auto Mechanics, Diesel Mechanics, Small Engine Mechanics, Residential Carpentry, Modern Woodworking, Residential Plumbing, Residential Electrical Wiring, Basic Welding and Applied Computer Technology.

- b. How many offenders (and %) participate in these programs each year? During 2013, 441 offenders participated in vocational classes. This number is approximately 25% of the institution's population.
- c. Do the programs lead to the award of a certificate? Two certificates are awarded to each offender who completes a class. A DOC completion certificate is given to each offender. It includes information on the topics studied and an evaluation ranking for each topic. The classes are registered with the apprenticeship program under the U. S. Department of Labor. All offenders who complete one of those classes also receive an apprenticeship certificate. The following classes receive NCCER certification – Electrical Wiring, Residential Plumbing, Residential Carpentry, and Basic Welding. The offenders who pass the exam in Applied Computer Technology receive a MOUS certification.
- d. Do you offer any training related to computer skills? A class in computer skills is offered. The curriculum includes basic typing skills and the study of Windows, Excel and Access plus a unit on basic care and maintenance of a computer.

6. Missouri Vocational Enterprises: N/A

- a. What products are manufactured at this institution?
- b. How many (and %) of offenders work for MVE at this site?
- c. Who are the customers for those products?
- d. What skills are the offenders gaining to help them when released back to the community?

7. Medical Health Services:

Medical Health Services:

- a. Is the facility accredited by the National Commission on Correctional Health Care?
Yes, Re-accreditation was granted with our survey November 2011, we will be having our next survey in 2014.
- b. How many offenders are seen in chronic care clinics?
There are approximately 1250 patients enrolled in the 14 chronic care clinics and infection control clinics. They are seen on a regularly scheduled basis by the physicians with test including laboratory test monitoring according to the protocols in the specialty clinics.
- c. What are some examples of common medical conditions seen in the medical unit?
Western Missouri Correctional Center is a level 5 medical facility, many of the patients are transferred to WMCC to accommodate their health care needs. The facility is extremely accommodating to patients with debilitating diseases related to the handicap accessibility and the flat landscape. The top four chronic diseases managed in the chronic care clinics are; Cardiovascular, Pulmonary/Asthma, Hepatitis C and Diabetes. Our Emergency Department is staffed and equipped to manage care ranging from Cardiac events, trauma, exacerbation of disease processes and seizures. We have two full time Physicians on duty five days per week to manage the medical care of the patients and Physician's on call 24/7.
- d. What are you doing to provide health education to offenders?
Our mission is to correctly inform the patients regarding their current health status, treatment, modalities and disease prevention. We hold an annual Health Fair for the population at WMCC. Education is given by pamphlets, verbal and minor routine examinations such as blood pressure checks, blood sugar checks, pulmonary functions and eye exams. The medical unit provides educational DVD's to be viewed on the institutional TV channel. We have mailings and internet

accessibility to provide the most current health care information available. By providing patients with health education, we are empowering these adults to take a proactive role in their health care. Three months prior to their release we begin providing education related to their adjustment to society related to their medical needs.

- e. Have you had any active cases of Tuberculosis in this facility in the past year? If so, how did you respond? We have not had any active Tuberculosis cases within the past year. We do have protocols in place if the situation arises.

- f. Is the aging of the population effecting health care in the prisons as it is effecting health care every where else?

We have offenders ranging from 19 to 90 years of age, as our population ages as a whole, the acuity of the medical conditions rise. We are treating medical conditions often limited to long term care facilities such as Dementia and Alzheimer's. These issues present various health and safety risks for patients within the correctional environment. We have a significant population that requires mobility devices such as wheelchairs, canes, braces, and walkers. With the increase of Hepatitis C in the communities and institutions, we are taking care of more patients during their later stages of life, providing supportive care to them and their families.

8. Mental Health Services:

- a. How do offenders go about obtaining mental health treatment services? Offenders are able to obtain mental health services through the HSR (Health Services Request) process. Referrals by staff are also scheduled for an initial evaluation.
- b. How many successful suicides (and %) occurred here in the past year and what is being done to prevent suicides? There were no completed suicides in 2013. Suicide prevention training is being provided to custody staff.
- c. Approximately how many (and %) of the offenders in this institution are taking psychotropic medications? About 16% of the population are prescribed psychotropic medications.
- d. How many offenders in this facility are chronically or seriously mentally ill and what is being done for them? There are currently 257 offenders in Chronic Care. Mental health provides psychotropic medication, psychiatric appointments at least once every three months, chronic care appointments/counseling at least once a month with Qualified Mental Health Provider (QMHP), mental health groups, and referral to special units as needed.

- 9. What is your greatest challenge in managing this institution? WMCC, as with the other institutions, has been asked to maintain operations with fewer resources. As the physical plant ages, repairs and upkeep become more demanding. This period of economic strain has required the administrative team and staff to “think outside the box” to provide services and remain within budgetary limits.

- 10. What is your greatest asset to assist you in managing this institution? The staff is our greatest asset in managing this institution.

- 11. What is the condition of the facilities' vehicle fleet? (mileage, old vehicles etc?) The fleet condition is poor, due to 53% (8 out of 15) of the offender transportation vehicles has over 150,000 miles. Also, the age of all the vehicles is a factor. See attached report.

12. Assess the morale of your custody staff; high, medium, or low and please provide detailed explanation. (Please have the Major answer)

I would consider the morale at Western Missouri Correctional Center at an overall level of medium. There currently are only two Corrections Officer I vacancies and 1 Corrections Officer II vacancy. The main factors for this rating are the vast amount of staff with unscheduled leave, daily mandatory overtime due to absences, and custody staff frequently have to provide coverage for other areas such as Laundry and Library.

13. Caseworkers:

- A. How many caseworkers are assigned to this institution? 23 Case Managers, 3 CCA's
- B. Do you currently have any caseworker vacancies? No
- C. Do the caseworkers accumulate comp-time? No
- D. Do the caseworkers at this institution work alternative schedules? No
- E. How do inmates gain access to meet with caseworkers? Open door policy
- E. Average caseload size per caseworker? 1 Case Manager per 100 offenders
 - # of disciplinary hearings per month? Approximately 19 per Case Manager
 - # of IRR's and grievances per month? Approximately 18 per Case Manager
 - # of transfers written per month? Approximately 17 per Case Manager
 - # of re-classification analysis (RCA's) per month? Approximately 30 per Case Manager
- F. Are there any services that you believe caseworkers should be providing, but are not providing? Due to heavy workload, staff cannot offer re-entry services to the extent we would like to.
- G. If so, what are the barriers that prevent caseworkers from delivering these services? Additional workload, large caseload size, and space – no classroom availability.
- H. What type of inmate programs/classes are the caseworkers at this institution involved in?

Anger Management: This class teaches how to control your behavior and deal with stressful situations in ways other than acting out. This is a 12-week class that discusses a different topic week.

Inside-Out Dads: This class teaches parenting and communication skills necessary to be a good parent. It teaches offenders how to deal with children and the trust issues that may arise between them. Inside-Out Dads teaches to be firm and back what you way. The class meets once a week for 12 weeks.

Therapeutic Community: This is a voluntary self-help program where offenders must show a true desire to want to make changes. They are able to address just about any issue while they are in the program such as substance abuse, relationships, employment, etc.

Impact of Crime on Victims: This class provides participants with insight as to how crimes directly or indirectly impact families and communities. Guest speakers are invited to speak about how crime has impacted their lives. This class meets once a week for 10 weeks.

Pathways to Change: This is a Cognitive Skills class full of activities designed to assist participants to recognize their decision making habits through exploring perceptions and intuition in an alternative learning environment. Pathways to change helps participants learn more about themselves and why they react to certain situations the way they do. This class meets once a week for 12 weeks.

Puppies For Parole: This is a state-wide program that started at Western Missouri Correctional Center on July 6, 2010. The Western Waifs Puppies for Parole program currently houses 20 dogs. The dogs spend on the average six (6) months in the program. During their training they are house trained and they learn to sit, stay, lay down, walk with a loose leash, be able to be brushed and handle crowds of people. Once they have mastered this they are given the Canine Good Citizenship Test. The offenders in the program are also entered in to the U. S. Department of labor for training and labor. Once they have spent 2000 hours as a dog handler they receive certification, and a certificate from the Department of Labor.

I. What other duties are assigned to caseworkers at this institution? Process offender visiting applications, job changes, room moves and offender transfers. Complete Transitional Accountability Plans by meeting with the offenders to discuss their assets/liabilities and develop a plan for successful release and providing community contacts. Conduct disciplinary hearings, investigate and complete Informal Resolution Requests/Grievances. Work with other sections to ensure the offender's needs are met. Conduct wing tours and complete inspections of working areas. Assist custody staff with wing inspections, cell searches, etc. Maintain the offender classification files. Communicate with offender families/friends when they call with issues and concerns. Assigned to task groups and sit on Interviewing Committees. Work with the community on Restorative Justice Projects.

14. Institutional Probation and Parole officers:

- A. How many parole officers are assigned to this institution? 6 POIIs, 1 POIII, 1 DA
- B. Do you currently have any staff shortages? No
- C. Do the parole officers accumulate comp-time? No
- D. Do the parole officers at this institution flex their time, work alternative schedules? IPOs currently work four 10-hour days.
- E. How do inmates gain access to meet with parole officers? Open door is held once a week, in the morning and afternoon, or offenders can write to their IPO.
- F. Average caseload size per parole officer?
 - # of pre-parole hearing reports per month? 15 – 20 per IPO
 - # of community placement reports per month? 3 – 4 per IPO
 - # of investigation requests per month? 10 -15 per IPO
- G. Are there any services that you believe parole officers should be providing, but are not providing? No
- H. If so, what are the barriers that prevent officers from delivering these services?
- I. What type of inmate programs/classes are the parole officers at this institution involved in? They currently provide a monthly pre-release meeting for offenders within one month of their release. This class is held for two days out of each month and involves various outside resources, such as Division of Workforce Development, Catholic Charities, field probation and parole staff, etc.

15. Please list any other issues you wish to discuss or bring to the attention of the members of the Joint Committee on Corrections. Staff salaries.

16. Does your institution have saturation housing? If so, how many beds? N/A

17. Radio/Battery Needs:

- a. What is the number of radios in working condition?
We have 290 radios, which have been in service for approximately 1 year.
- b. Do you have an adequate supply of batteries with a good life expectancy? Yes.
- c. Are the conditioners/rechargers in good working order? Yes.

LICENSE #	VEHICLE	MILAGE	CONDITION	USAGE
13-0121	2007 CAGED 15 VAN	124,003	GOOD	INMATE TRAN.
13-0157	1996 Caged 15 VAN	153,786	POOR	GROUND
13-0244	2003 FULL SEDAN	212,115	POOR	PERIMETER
32-0296	2008 IMPALA	94,406	GOOD	POOL
13-0462	2005 CAGED 15 VAN	160,135	POOR	INMATE TRAN.
13-0463	1997 1 TON 4X4	32,435	POOR	MAINTANCE
13-0464	2009 BUS CAGED	153,767	GOOD	INMATE TRAN.
13-0465	1999 FULL SEDAN	190,975	FAIR	POOL
13-0466	1995 MINI 6VAN	83,941	POOR	DOG TEAM
	2008 UPLANDER			
13-0467	CAGED	170,580	GOOD	INMATE TRAN.
13-0468	2007 CAGED HANDICAP	54,682	GOOD	INMATE TRAN.
13-0469	1998 JEEP UTIL 4X4	139,228	GOOD	DOG TEAM
13-0470	1999 DODGE 250 4X4	65,858	GOOD	MAINTANCE
	1988 GMC DUMP			
13-0472	TRUCK	25,322	POOR	MAINTANCE
	2008 UPLANDER			
13-0473	CAGED	90,019	GOOD	INMATE TRAN.
	1988 FORD FLAT BED			
13-0475	2T	152,048	POOR	MAINTANCE
13-0476	2003 CAGED 15 VAN	193,792	POOR	INMATE TRAN.
13-0477	2003 CAGED 15 VAN	192,228	GOOD	INMATE TRAN.
	2008 UPLANDER			
13-0478	CAGED	161,522	GOOD	INMATE TRAN.
13-0479	2005 CAGED 15 VAN	145,186	POOR	INMATE TRAN.
	2006 CAGED FULL			
13-0481	SEDAN	118,016	GOOD	INMATE TRAN.
	2007 CAGED FULL			
13-0503	SEDAN	92,806	GOOD	INMATE TRAN.
	2005 CAGED FULL			
13-0505	SEDAN	166,763	GOOD	INMATE TRAN.
13-0643	2006 MINI CAGED 7 VAN	134,623	GOOD	INMATE TRAN.
13-0933	1992 CHEVY VAN	168,360	FAIR	GROUND
13-0934	2002 SEDAN FULL	272,355	POOR	PERIMETER
13-0935	2005 CAGED 15 VAN	162,440	FAIR	INMATE TRAN.
13-0940	1992 RAM 150	83,460	POOR	MAINTANCE